

S. psittacina Mx.), it may be remarked, is now growing in the immediate vicinity of the *Arcuaria* locality. The "new court house" mentioned by Nuttall is still standing in Reidsville, though it has recently been moved aside and superseded by a modern brick structure.

COLLEGE POINT, NEW YORK.

SHORTER NOTES

A NEW POLYPOROID GENUS FROM SOUTH AMERICA. — An interesting pore-fungus was collected a few years ago in Colombia by Mr. C. F. Baker. It is the only species of Polyporaceae known to me which occurs parasitic on living leaves. I have erected upon it the new genus *Phylloporia*, a description of which follows :

Phylloporia gen. nov.

Hymenophore small, tough, annual, attached by the vertex to the lower surface of living leaves; context brown, fibrous, tubes thin-walled, mouths polygonal; spores globose, smooth, pale ferruginous.

The distinguishing feature of this genus is its habit of growing upon living leaves. It is based upon the following species :

Phylloporia parasitica sp. nov.

Pileus circular, thin, attached by its vertex to the under surface of living leaves, 5–8 mm. in diameter, 0.2–1 mm. thick; surface minutely tomentose, fulvous, margin thin, entire, ochraceous to ferruginous; context membranaceous, fibrous, ferruginous; tubes 0.5 mm. or less in length, 3–7 to a millimeter, isabelline, polygonal, irregular, edges thin, entire to coarsely dentate; spores globose, smooth, very pale ferruginous, 3–4 μ , hyphae colorous.

Collected by C. F. Baker near Bonda, Colombia, Nov. 16, 1898, on living leaves of *Bignonia* (?). Numerous sporophores in various stages of development are found on the lower surface of the leaf, usually attached to a vein. This species is the only one of its family in America that occurs on living leaves.

Looked at from above, the host appears to be attacked by a leaf-parasite and it is quite surprising to find on the lower surface the sporophores of one of the Polyporaceae.

WILLIAM ALPHONSO MURKILL.

NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN.

A NEW SPECIES OF BRADBURYA.—**Bradburya Florida**
Britton, sp. nov. Stem glabrous or nearly so, twining, 1 mm. long or more. Leaflets lanceolate to oval, thin but rather firm, glabrous, strongly reticulate-veined on both sides, blunt and aristulate at the apex, rounded at the base, 8 cm. long or less; petioles 2–5 cm. long, glabrous; petiolule of the terminal leaflet 1–1.7 cm. long, those of the lateral leaflets about 2 mm. long; peduncles axillary, pubescent, 6 cm. long or less; flowers several, on slender pubescent pedicels; bracts acute, pubescent, 1 cm. long or less; calyx-teeth lanceolate-subulate, as long as the hemispheric tube, on the upper one longer; standard white, striped and tinged with lavender, yellow-striped in the middle, 3–4 cm. broad; pod glabrous, flat, 11–12 cm. long, 6 mm. wide, its subulate beak 1.5 cm. long, its raised margins about 0.5 mm. wide.

Tampa, Florida, in dry soil, climbing on bushes, N. L. Britton and P. Wilson, Aug. 25, 1903, No. 81 (type); Florida, Chapman. Near *B. pubescens* (Benth.) Kuntze.

N. L. BRITTON.

NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN.

RINGS IN BARK FORMED BY BRANCHES.—The bark of the white pine, *Pinus Strobus* L., as is well known, usually does not roughen until the tree becomes quite old, that is ten inches or upward in diameter, although I have seen trees five or six inches in diameter in which part way up the trunk the bark was rough for a distance of four or five feet, the balance both above and below being entirely smooth.

The branches are verticillate and numerous, although in heavy stands of timber the lower whorls usually die back when the shoots are about half an inch in diameter, and even higher up it is usually only three or four that persist and grow to any size. The effect is to give the otherwise smooth trunk a most curious ringed appearance, each ring of roughened bark about about two inches across marking the place of a whorl of branches. These

rings are a very prominent feature on all the trees that I have noticed and certainly deserve to be recorded.

EDWARD W. BERRY.

PASSAIC, NEW JERSEY.

NEWS ITEMS

Dr. and Mrs. N. L. Britton are in the Bahamas. They sailed from New York August 19, and expect to return some time before the end of the present month.

Dr. W. A. Murrill, who has been spending the summer in Virginia, has returned and taken up his work as assistant curator, in charge of the mycological department, at the New York Botanical Garden.

Dr. Otto Kuntze, of San Remo, Italy, widely known on account of his studies of problems in botanical nomenclature, has been in the United States recently on his return from a trip around the world. He sailed from New York on Saturday, September 10.

Among the distinguished visitors upon whom the degree of doctor of science was conferred by Cambridge University, on the occasion of the recent meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, were Adolf Engler, professor of botany in the University of Berlin, and Sir William Turner Thisleton-Dyer, F.R.S., director of the Royal Botanic Garden at Kew.

Dr. N. L. Britton and Dr. J. N. Rose have taken up the study of the Cactaceae. They propose to gather large living collections both at New York and Washington, much as they have done with the Crassulaceae, and to continue their studies for a series of years, basing descriptions largely on living plants. Extensive field-work will be done, especially in Mexico, and the earnest coöperation of botanists travelling in the southwest is solicited. The National Museum will gladly furnish means for sending material to Washington.

According to the annual summary of doctorates conferred by American universities, published in *Science*, the number this year in botany is seventeen, while during the past six years the smallest